Auction of jewellery by Andhra Bank

140. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some mal-practices took place in Andhra Bank Navuduru, West Godavari District, Andhra Pradesh in auctioning jewellery that was hypothecated on 24th June, 1993;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) who participated in the bidding;

(d) whether the auction was advertised in news papers;

(e) how many items of jewellery were listed for auction on that day;

(f) how many of them were actually auctioned; and

(g) what was the market value of the items of jewellery and what amount was actually realised by the auction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) Andhra Bank has reported that no malpractice took place at Navuduru Branch, West Godavari District, Andhra Pradesh in auctioning of gold jewellery on the 24th June, 1993.

(b) to (g) 12 overdue gold loan accounts were listed for auction on that day and 8 out of them were auctioned. The market value of the jewellery was Rs. 59,675/- and the amount realised from the auction was Rs. 49,175/-. S/Shri D. Nageshu, M. Raju, M. Venkateshwara Rao from Palakollu and D. Bhaskar Raju and S. Satyanarayana from Bhimalapur participated in the bidding. In addition, two local persons were witness to the auction. The bank has reported that its branch had distributed auction notices in the Service Area villages of the branches and among nearby branches. Notices were also pasted/exhibited at prominent places in the village and gold merchants in the nearby towns about the auction

Review of customs duty exemption

141. SHRl ISH DUTT YADAV:
SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL

Will the Minister of FINANCE b pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention ha been drawn to the news item of th 'Economic Times' New Delhi dated th 22nd April, 1993 under the caption 'Cus toms duty cuts lead to closure of Chemi cal Units;

(b) whether a similar report has als been submitted by the Federation o Indian Chambers of Commerce and In dutry to Government; and

(c) if so, whether Government would consider revising its policy in this regard'

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN TH1 MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. \ CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a There is no news items in the 'Economi Times' New Delhi, dated the 22nd April 1993 under the caption 'Customs duty cuts lead to closure of Chemical Units'.

(b) Government is not aware of an report submitted by Federation of India: Chambers of Commerce and Industry re garding closure of chemical units.

(c) Does not arise in view of above.

Income tax arrears

142. SHRI MOHAMMED AFZA] alias MEEM AFZAL: Will the Ministe of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the firms an individuals against whom Income-ta amounting to more than Rupees ten lak is outstanding as on the 31st March, 199: and

(b) since when these are outstanding and what steps have been taken by Go\ ernment to recover the dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN TH] MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. \ CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) and (b) The number of firms and indivi